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INTEGRATED AND COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION OF AND FOLLOW-UP TO MAJOR UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the Council on the basis of informal consultations

Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,[1]

Affirming that gender mainstreaming constitutes a critical strategy in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[2] and for achieving the overall goal of gender equality,

Recognizing the importance of integrating a gender perspective in development as well as in all other policy areas and of addressing the disparity of opportunities between women and men at all stages of their lives if gender equality is to be achieved,

Welcoming the steps already taken by various entities of the United Nations system, including the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional and regional commissions and other subsidiary bodies, the United Nations Secretariat, the Administrative Committee on Coordination, the

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[1] A/52/3, chap. IV, sect. A.

[2] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality and other subsidiary machinery of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and the Executive Committees, as well as specialized agencies, funds and programmes, to implement agreed conclusions 1997/2 of the Council,

1. Invites the United Nations system, in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action, to take into account the different obstacles to the development and empowerment of women in all regions and their roles as actors and beneficiaries of development;

2. Reaffirms that the recommendations contained in its agreed conclusions 1997/2 should be implemented as a matter of urgency and at the latest by the time of the five-year review of the Beijing Platform for Action in 2000, and calls on all parts of the United Nations system to take immediate action in this regard;

3. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 1997 coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system;[3]

4. Requests all entities of the United Nations system, in particular the funds and programmes in their operational activities, to adopt a comprehensive, integrated and multisectoral approach to implementing the Beijing Platform for Action;

5. Welcomes the efforts of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat to contribute to the inclusion of a gender perspective in the reports of the Secretariat and reiterates that all reports from entities of the Secretariat should reflect a gender perspective;

6. Urges the Commission of the Status of Women to continue to provide suggestions to the Council and its subsidiary bodies, in particular to other functional commissions, on further measures to implement the strategy of gender mainstreaming;

7. Decides to pay particular attention to the feminization of poverty, its causes and remedies when reviewing the theme of poverty eradication in 1999, and to ensure a gender perspective when reviewing the implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits, and requests that any documentation to be prepared for this purpose provide an adequate basis to this end;

8. Decides to continue to monitor annually the way in which its functional commissions and subsidiary bodies implement the Beijing Platform for Action, inter alia, by mainstreaming a gender perspective, under the agenda items "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits" and "Advancement of women".

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[3] E/1998/64.